



IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicant: Timothy D. Evans et al. : Art Unit: 1731
Application No.: 09/700,475 : Examiner: M. Steve Alvo
Filed: January 11, 2001 :
FOR: PEROXIDE, OXYGEN, AND :
PEROXIDE/OXYGEN :
BRIGHTENING OF CHEMICAL :
AND MIXED WASTE PULPS :

AMENDMENT AND RESPONSE TO
OFFICE ACTION MAILED SEPTEMBER 19, 2001

Assistant Commissioner for Patents
Washington, D.C. 20231

S I R :

In response to the Office Action of September 19, 2001, please amend the above-identified application as follows and reconsider the application in view of the amendments and remarks provided below.

IN THE CLAIMS:

Please replace claims 1, 9 and 20 with the following amended claims:

- 1 1. (Amended) A combination of additives for use in a
2 brightening stage of pulps containing less than 18% lignin, said combination
3 comprising: an aqueous solution of sodium silicate; an alkali agent added in an
4 amount sufficient to maintain a pH of said solution at least about 8; and a
5 magnesium compound which dissociates in said solution to form $Mg(OH)^+$ cations,
6 wherein said magnesium compound is added in an amount to achieve, along with